

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Tempe bus ridership increases by seven percent between 2003 and 2004

TEMPE, *Ariz*. - Bus ridership in Tempe increased by 533 percent since the 1996 transit tax vote. The number of passengers riding the bus increased from 1.2 million riders in 1996 to 7.6 million riders in 2004 (including FLASH and express routes). Ridership increased by 533,529 passenger boardings in 2004 compared to calendar year 2003. Passenger boardings are tracked on all bus routes in Tempe.

The city of Tempe has 16 local and regional bus routes, three free shuttles and four express bus routes. Most Tempe buses run from 5 to 1 a.m. Monday through Saturday and Sunday from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m., with 15 minute frequency from 6 to 9 a.m. and 3 to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday. All Tempe buses operate 365 days a year.

For more information about Tempe bus service, please call the Tempe Transit Office at (480) 350-2775 or visit www.tempe.gov/tim